TAPHONOMY, FACIES AND PALAEOENVIRONMENTAL ANALYSIS

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This scientific session will be aimed to show some concepts and methods of current research on taphonomy of Jurassic fossils and facies. Taphonomic data are relevant for biostratigraphical and biochronostratigraphical studies. Taphonomic results of ammonites and other guide fossils in Jurassic deposits can be of chronostratigraphical and geochronological interest. A part of the session will be devoted to applied taphonomy and the use of taphonomic criteria in interpreting palaeoenvironmental conditions and changes. Models of taphofacies relate preservational features of fossiliferous deposits to palaeoenvironmental parameters. However, the stratigraphical record and the fossil record are different in nature, and they can be dissociated and studied separately. The fossil record may supply relevant data on sedimentary environments and processes which have left no traces in the stratigraphical record. The identification of such fossils is of utmost importance in interpreting the environmental cycles of Jurassic epicontinental platforms, when no stratigraphic record is preserved but reelaborated elements are widely recorded. Palaeontological knowledge provide data to identifying discontinuities and cycles in the stratigraphical record. Conversely, the stratigraphic knowledge provide a predictive framework within which to test palaeontological cycles and discontinuities. Contributions (oral or poster presentations) dealing with palaeoenvironmental interpretation of Jurassic fossils and fossiliferous deposits, taking into account taphonomic criteria, are welcome.